G. R. S. 58
Previous references.

1908.
(Agriculture

File No. 69-08

Serial Nos. 8+9

Later references.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 8 and 9

Part B. for December 1908

SUBJECT.

Gratuitous relief - to old and infirm ~~destitute~~ persons

8. From the Rev Commr. 53818 26-11-08.
Requests permission to utilize for gratuitous relief the sum of Rs 20000 sanctioned for poor houses.

9. — " Comptroller, to Dy Comnr of Sl:
No: R 3603-12 of 4-12-08.
Acknowledges receipt of the recommendation in Sl. 8.

GPB.-8,000—7-4-07

G.R.S.11] 1908.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

(Agriculture)

NOTES.

Agri File No. 69-08

FILE HEADING.

Gratuitous relief.

From

The Revenue Comr. in Mysore.

No. 5381 Dated 26/27.11.08 Received 28.11.08.

Diary No. 3032	Enclos.	Spare Copies	Serial No. 8

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

Requests permission to utilize for gratuitous relief the sum of Rs. 20,000 Sanctioned for Poor houses.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

Hds K.

A sum of Rs. 20,000 was recently sanctioned by Govt. specially for Poor houses. The Rev. Comr. proposes to utilize this amount for the gratuitous relief

NOTES—First sheet.

GPB—30,000—3-4-07

Serial No.

relief of people who are urgently in need of relief but cannot be got into Poor houses. The Question therefore is whether, under the Famine Code, gratuitous relief maybe afforded prior to the declaration of famine.

Sec. 179 of the Famine Code.

Poor houses are institutions where Cooked food is distributed gratuitously to the inmates on condition of their residing therein and conforming to the rules of discipline and order. They are thus a form of gratuitous relief, but they differ from the other forms in the following respects :—

i. the manner of affording relief;

ii. the conditions under which relief is afforded;

and iii. the class of persons to whom relief is afforded. Thus in Poor houses Cooked food is given to people who reside in them and conform to the rules of discipline; and the persons who are eligible for admission into the institutions as inmates are homeless and destitute wanderers:

They thus afford both boarding and lodging [and also medical aid].

See 164

In the case of gratuitous relief, on the other hand, the relief maybe by a distribution of cooked food or by a grain or cash dole. Residence is not required, nor is any provision made for it, the

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—13-5-08

Serial No.

S.161.

162

Such as the aged, the infirm &c

relief being granted to those members of a Village who are on the gratuitous relief list. It is intended primarily for persons unfit for work, and incidentally also to such of the Village servants as, on account of their famine duties, cannot attend to their usual employments.*

The object with which poor houses are coupled with test works and gratuitous relief with relief works is obvious. During the test work stage the exact degree of the distress prevailing in the tract will not have been ascertained, and though the necessity for relief is recognised, it is considered that some effective check is required to prevent persons able to work from flocking to it, especially in view of the fact that the conditions of test works are a bit hard and therefore unpopular. In the Poor House such a check exists in the compulsory residence which, on account of its unpleasant associations, may be expected to keep out all but those who are absolutely in need of relief.

Gratuitous relief, on the other hand, is not open to these objections if it is afforded after relief works have been started. Provision will then have been made for the employment

* The question of affording relief to village servants was raised in another connection and the Dewan ordered that no immediate relief to [particular village servants] [E.G. advance of pay] was now required. No orders were passed on the [in] general Village servants. (The file is under Sub:)

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—18-5-08

Serial No.

employment of persons able to work. Destitute Wanderers will have the Poor houses to go to, and it becomes an easy matter for the Village Officers to pick out the aged, the infirm and the other descriptions of persons entitled to gratuitous relief.

The Rev. Comr. states, however, that gratuitous relief will now be much more effective than Poor houses, and he refers to the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh as a case in point. The recent famine Admn. report of this tract is not available in the office, but it will be seen from the extract furnished by the Rev. Comr. that the policy of affording gratuitous relief before a declaration of famine was there highly successful. The Rev. Comr. suggests a similar measure here and proposes that for purposes of the famine code, "scarcity" may be declared to prevail in the affected tract [which he does not mention]. There seems to be nothing in the code to prevent the adoption of the Rev. Cr's suggestion, as it simply describes what should be done under* certain conditions.

Sec. 257 of the Code allows the Dept. Cr. to afford immediate relief in urgent cases, though he may have to exceed his powers. But then this refers to isolated cases and the Rev. Cr. proposes almost a change of policy.

Subd. for orders.

RR
1.12.08. The reason why the famine

BK
1/12/08

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—18.5.08

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Agn File No. 69 of 1908

Serial No.

Code does not provide for administering substitutes relief except by opening kotharis until famine is declared i because it is expected that private charity will deal with the cases of the infirm & aged & others who from circumstances & caste & otherwise are unable & do not go for work. There is no objection to placing a small amount not exceeding 50 Rs at the disposal of the Dy Commr & give relief in urgent cases where there are visible signs of suffering from want of food under S. 254 Famine Code. Local Officers should exert themselves as far as possible & take advantage of the charitable spirit in the locality & help deserving cases as nothing is likely to be more beneficial than indiscriminate charity especially when it is ~~not~~ hoarded from fear of famine the opening of kotharis by way of testing distress should not therefore be dispensed with

&
2/11/08

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—18-5-08

Agri File No. 69 of 1908

6—

Serial No.

Following the precedent of the United Provinces ~~In a similar case letter~~ we should, I think, be justified ~~in~~ in departing somewhat from the strict letter of the Famine Code, & permitting Takavi relief to be given even before the formal declaration of scarcity, in cases of the kind mentioned in section 162 of the ~~Famine~~ Code.

11090/4/12/08 Dewan

2-12-08

Approved by Dewan. Please put up draft order.

4-12-08

Laid with draft & 4/12/08

Jyne Lodge. 4-12-08 & 4/12/08

B

4.

I.

The Rev. Comr.
The Comptroller.
The Dy. Comrs of Districts.
No 3603-12 & 4. 12. 08

Sanctions the recommendations submitted to the Councillors for information

9113/12-12-08

12/12/08

Secretary to Council

16/12/1908

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—18-5-06

No. 5387

OFFICE OF THE REV. COMR. IN MYSORE,

Bangalore, 26th November 1908.

Agri 69-08-8 ?7

FROM

A. RANGASWAMI IYENGAR, ESQ., B.A., B.L.,
Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.

To

The Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
General & Revenue Departments.

SIR,

With reference to the observation contained in Government Proceedings No. R.3299-308/Agri. 69-08-5 dated 25th November 1908, that the amount of ₹ 20,000 was required by me presumably for opening "Poor houses" under section 40 of the Famine Code, as the stage for affording gratuitous relief has not yet arrived, I have the honour to state that the amount was required for affording relief to such of the old and infirm paupers as could not be got into the poor houses. Though section 161 of the Mysore Famine Code provides that gratuitous relief shall ordinarily begin as soon as relief works are opened, past experience and the present condition in some of the places visited by me show that such relief is very necessary even before the formal declaration of Famine. I would, in this connection, invite your attention to the resolution of the Government of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh (pages 546 & 550 of the United Provinces Gazette dated 24th October 1908) (typed copy of Extract enclosed herein for reference) from which it will be seen that similar measures were adopted in those Provinces during the famine of 1907 & 1908 with success. As in portions of the United Provinces so in some villages and towns in some of the affected Taluks in this State there are a number of old and infirm persons requiring immediate gratuitous relief.

In my tours the Totis and Talaris of some of the affected villages were also found to be in urgent need of

Rev. Comr. Form 12.

I 4/29 11.16

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From

A. RANGASWAMI IYENGAR, Esq., B.A., B.L.,

Revenue Commissioner

in Mysore.

To

The Secretary to the Government of
H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
General & Revenue Departments.

Dated 26.11.16
Despatched 27.11.16 } November
Received

No. 5381

3032

Enclosure No. Agri

Regretting permission
of Government to utilize
the amount of Rs. 20,000/-
sanctioned in the proceedings
of the 25th instant,
to afford gratuitous
relief to those who stand
in urgent need thereof

Young & Co., Printers, 2,000—6-3-07.

of relief as they did not derive anything from their Inam lands or the Aya. Though the Famine Code (section 177) provides for the relief of these minor village servants after the declaration of Famine, it seems to me that it is not desirable on mere technical grounds to postpone the relief and the sooner the measures are adopted the better would be the result and much expense and suffering would be saved later on.

I would therefore request that the Government would be pleased to permit me to utilize the amount of Rs. 20,000 sanctioned in the Proceedings referred to above, to afford gratuitous relief to people who are in urgent need thereof even before declaring that famine condition exists, the selection of people for such relief and the forms in which relief should be afforded being made strictly in accordance with the provisions contained in the Famine Code. If this cannot be done it may be declared that " ~~Famine~~ scarcity " exists in those places where gratuitous relief is required in order to satisfy the requirements of the Famine Department, as it was done in the United Provinces.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

For Revenue Commissioner.

B.K.

The Government Gazette of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh.

Dated, 24th October 1908.

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Page 546.

x x x In all Districts where gratuitous relief was likely to be necessary the arrangement of circles and the preparation of preliminary lists of persons eligible for relief was pushed on, as the need for this form of relief was expected to arise earlier than the need of employment for labour -ers on relief works. x x x x

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Page 550.

x x x x In the United Provinces Famine Code provides that gratuitous relief shall ordinarily commence at the same time as relief works and the preparation of the preliminary lists of persons eligible for gratuitous relief shall be made when the number of test works shows that distress is imminent; but, as has been stated, the Government realised as early as October that owing to the pressure of high prices upon the poorer classes, especially upon those in the towns who live on small fixed incomes, gratuitous relief would be in many places be required before the necessity for relief works was established. Consequently as early as the 1st December the distribution of gratuitous relief was sanctioned in the cities of Lucknow, Benares and Agra and the city and towns of the Mirzapur District. By the end of December gratuitous relief was being given in nine districts or portions of districts in addition to the five districts in which famine had been recognized. In such cases a declaration of "Scarcity" was made in order to satisfy account requirements and in the case of Lucknow city famine was declared in the belief that famine measures would before long be required in that district. As the event proved relief works were never needed in Lucknow: the notification of famine in the city

was

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was of a purely formal character and was withdrawn later. The amount of gratuitous relief which was given in December was -- comparatively small, the number ~~relived~~ relieved in this way at the end of the month being only 25,434.

x x x x x x x

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" Extract "

For Revenue Commissioner.

B.K.

G.R.S. 28]

5

File No. 69-08

Serial No. 9

Diary No. of letter replied to _____

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

( )

, the 190

Date of issue 4-12-08

Signed by _____

READ.—

Letter No 5308 dt the 16th Nov 1908 from the Rev Canon in Mysore requesting permission to utilize the amount of Rs 10000, which was sanctioned in P.P No. R 3755-308/Mis: 65-08-3

ORDER THEREON.—No. dt 25th Nov 1908

for opening kanchis, & affording relief to such of the old and infirm paupers as cannot be made to go to kanchis

Order thereon 3603-12

The Famine Code does

over

SUBJECT

MGCPB—9,000—11-9-04

not contemplate the
part of Catholics
relief from the actual
declaration of famine.
except by giving [illegible]
But the Govt has given
[illegible] part consider
that they would be
justified in departing from
the provisions of the famine
Code and sanctioning
preventive relief even before
the necessity for relief works
is established so that the
aged and infirm and other
classes of incapable persons
described in s. 162 of the
famine Code ingust be
put to much suffering by
the prevailing high prices -
Similar [illegible]
has been
pursued in the Counties
Provinces of Ulster & Connaught

and reasons for
a relaxation
of the strict provisions
of the famine use

The first Undertaking

with advantageous results

7

G.R.S. 27]

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(~~Continuation~~ Sheet draft form.)

to afford gratuitous relief to dearness cases under Art. 162 of the Famine Code even before the formal declaration of scarcity & of relief works.

Secret

~~which~~ Dr. Hayes

~~indicates the~~ In a case under the ~~famine~~ Code, the Govt are pleased to approve of the Rev Comm's recommendation ~~but that any precaution will be adopted to see that the funds are applied~~ ~~to relief only~~ the most deserving cases

Secret Dep

The Rev Comm
The Comptroller
& Comm. 7 Bs

MGCPB—30,000—5-4-06.

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Revenue (Agriculture), dated 4th December 1908.

READ—

Letter No. 5381, dated the 26th November 1908, from the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore, requesting permission to utilize the amount of Rs. 20,000 which was sanctioned in Government Proceedings No. R. 3299-308—Agri. 69-08-5, dated 25th November 1908, for opening Poor Houses for affording relief to such of the old and infirm paupers as cannot be made to go to Poor Houses.

No. R. 3603-12—AGRI. 69-08-9, DATED BANGALORE, 4TH DECEMBER 1908.

ORDER THEREON.—The Famine Code does not contemplate the grant of gratuitous relief prior to the actual declaration of famine except by opening Poor Houses. But the Revenue Commissioner has given good reasons for a relaxation of the strict provisions of the Famine Code. The Government also understand that a similar policy has been pursued recently in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh with advantageous results. On a consideration of all the circumstances of the case the Government are pleased to approve of the Revenue Commissioner's recommendation to afford gratuitous relief to deserving cases under Section 162 of the Famine Code even before the formal declaration of distress and the opening of relief works.

K. S. CHANDRASEKHARA AIYAR,
Secy. to Govt., Gen. & Rev. Depts.

To—The Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.
The Comptroller, Mysore Government.
The Deputy Commissioners of Districts.

Exd. C. P. S.

1908-09

GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS
THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE

REVENUE (AGRICULTURE)

PROCEEDINGS

Dated 4th December 1908

No. R. 3603-12
Agri. 69-08-9

Affording of gratuitous relief to such of the old and infirm paupers as cannot be made to go to Poor Houses prior to the declaration of famine.

GPB—12-12-08—350